

ABSTRACT

B1 Cytotoxic agents, and particularly DNA-damaging agents, can be detected in a whole effluent water or liquid sample by a method called whole effluent toxicity. A living culture of a particle-feeding flagellate is added to a sample, a growth rate is determined for the flagellate, and the growth rate is compared within the sample and its standard growth rate. A decrease in growth rate is indicative of the presence of cytotoxic agents in the sample.